Commissioner's Office

Contact: Michelle Robinson, Communications Director TELEPHONE: (406)444-1520

FAX: (406)444-1394 e-mail: mirobinson@mt.gov February 14, 2007 P.O. BOX 1728 HELENA, MT 59624-1728

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 230 AmeriCorps Hit the Streets to Collect Food for the Needy

(Helena) --- The Annual Montana AmeriCorps All Member Gathering will be held in Helena on Monday, February 19. The event provides an opportunity for 230 AmeriCorps members from across the state to gather in celebration of their service and commitment to civic engagement.

As part of the afternoon festivities, members will conduct a walking food drive within the city limits.

"A key component to the gathering is giving back," said event sponsor Linda Carlson of the Governor's Office of Community Service.

Members will spread out across Helena, in groups of 20 to collect food from the following residential areas: Smith School, Ray Bjork, State Capitol, Jefferson, College of Technology, Central School, Hawthorne School, HMS area, CR Anderson, and Sunhaven subdivision.

"Residents are asked to place boxes of non-perishable food items on their doorstep or give when a member knocks," said Carlson. Donated food will benefit Food Share and Helena's families in need.

For more information on how you can donate, contact Sue Tinsley, 444-1391 or to learn more about the AmeriCorps, please visit www.americorps.org

###